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HARRY POTTER WEEKEND

Where to celebrate the release of the latest book. 22

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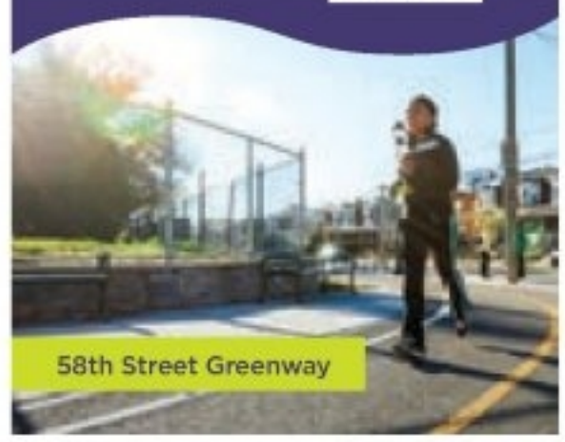

'HER-STORY'

On Thursday night, Hillary Clinton will accept the Democratic nomination to run for the White House, shattering forever the highest of glass ceilings. 2

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JUDGE FREES PRESIDENT REAGAN'S WOULD-BE KILLER HINCKLEY

1 John Hinckley Jr., who wounded President Ronald Reagan and three other people in a 1981 assassination attempt prompted by his obsession with actress Jodie Foster, can be freed from a psychiatric hospital to live with his mother, a federal judge ruled. U.S. District Judge Paul Friedman said Hinckley, 61, who was found not guilty by reason of insanity in a 1982 trial, no longer posed a danger to himself or others. He said Hinckley could be released from St. Elizabeth's, a government psychiatric hospital in Washington, as soon as Aug. 5, subject to nearly three dozen conditions. "Since 1983, when he last attempted suicide, he has displayed no symptoms of active mental illness, exhibited no violent behavior, shown no interest in weapons, and demonstrated no suicidal ideation," Friedman said of Hinckley in a 103-page opinion. REUTERS

BALTIMORE PROSECUTOR DROPS POLICE CHARGES IN FREDDIE GRAY CASE

2 Baltimore's top prosecutor dropped all remaining charges against police officers tied to the death of black detainee Freddie Gray, after failing four times to secure convictions in a case that inflamed the U.S. debate on race and justice. Prosecutor Marilyn Mosby had stunned the city and became a national figure by filing charges against six officers just days after Gray's death from a broken neck suffered in a police van sparked protests and rioting in April 2015. The death of the 25-year-old was one in a series of high-profile deaths of black suspects at the hands of U.S. police that stoked a national debate on police tactics and the treatment of minorities. It fueled the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement. REUTERS

FED KEEPS RATES UNCHANGED, SAYS RISKS TO OUTLOOK REDUCED

3 The Federal Reserve left interest rates unchanged on Wednesday but said near-term risks to the U.S. economic outlook had diminished, opening the door to a resumption of monetary policy tightening this year. The U.S. central bank said the economy had expanded at a moderate rate and job gains were strong in June. It added that household spending also had been "growing strongly," and pointed to an increase in labor utilization. While Fed policymakers said they continued to closely monitor inflation data and global economic and financial developments, they indicated less worry about possible shocks that could push the U.S. economy off course. REUTERS

Clinton's moment a breakthrough for all women: PAC

Emily's List PAC celebrates Democratic candidate overcoming sexism, empowering other woman running for office.

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Delegates cheer as a screen displays Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton delivering remarks to the crowd. GETTY IMAGES

On a sun-drenched stage under the Kimmel Center's vaulted glass ceiling, women in politics and their supporters celebrated breaking through another glass ceiling: the one Hillary Clinton smashed after clinching the Democratic presidential nomination the previous day.

Emily's List, a political action committee dedicated to helping women reach elected offices, threw an afternoon fete Wednesday, where keynote speakers addressed hundreds of delegates, speaking on the historic nature of Clinton's nomination, retelling their own struggles and triumphs in overcoming sexism and buckling down on their mission to ensure greater female representation in politics.

"This is really your victory. This is really your night," Clinton said via satellite to a crowd of cheering supporters Tuesday night, once delegates elected the former secretary of state. "And if there are any little girls out there who stayed up late to watch, let me just say I may become the first woman president. But one of you is next."

Clinton will give her acceptance speech Thursday night in person, just miles from Independence Hall where the nation was conceived. Party discord aside, the weight of Clinton's nomination is palpable.

"Today, we are here to celebrate history, but let's face it: It's 'her-story,'" quipped Katie McGinty, a Northeast Philly native and U.S. Senate candidate.

"What we know is that when women are not empowered, America is not empowered," McGinty told a cheering crowd. "Together, we have to change it. Together, we will change it. Because as Hillary would say, we are 'stronger together.'"

The former environmental adviser to Bill Clinton added: "We will ensure that for my daughters and yours, that they get to grow up in a world that everyone who works hard has the same chance to succeed."

Clinton's work in advancing the rights of women has been at the forefront of this convention, and women seem to be her loudest allies. They recall the day when, in 1995, the then-first lady declared in Beijing that "women's rights are human rights."

New York Sen. Chuck Schumer praised the role of women in politics at the Emily's List event.

"Women are key," the senior senator said in reference to the ongoing fight to protect a woman's right to choose and women's health. "Women make better candidates than men.

"If we don't elect Hillary Rodham Clinton as president and we don't take back the Senate, America is going to have big, big trouble."

Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, drew wild reactions from the crowd. The standard-bearer for the Democratic Party's progressive wing, told the audience about her own battle to shatter the glass ceiling when, just five years ago, she left her career as a professor and ran for public office. One friend, she recalled, said the job might be better suited for a man.

"What it fundamentally says," Warren explained, "is no matter how smart you are, no matter how hard you try, no matter how much you get out there ... there's going to be some number of people — even your friends — who think you can't do this for the sole reason because you're a woman.

"For everyone who thinks it doesn't matter anymore, women can run just like men can run and it's all just the same, pause to ask why are women 20 percent of the United States Senate when we're 50 percent of the population."

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Fence-jumpers free from federal custody

Four pro-Bernie protesters who faced jail time were set free in Philly federal court.

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Anna Sternberg; at right is Barbara Burns of Boston. SAM NEWHOUSE; GETTY IMAGES

Two days into the Democratic National Convention, predictions of mass arrests to keep order in Philadelphia had turned out to be a bust — a few dozen protesters had been issued municipal citations, but none had been taken to jail.

Until Tuesday night, when four Bernie Sanders supporters scaled the fence around the Wells Fargo Center where Democrats nominated Hillary Clinton as their presidential nominee, entering an off-limits security zone set up by the Secret Service.

Anna Marie Sternberg, one of the four, said she vaulted the fence to protest "the death throes of our democracy."

"I see the students fighting really hard," said Sternberg, 69, of California, who plans to vote for Green Party candidate Jill Stein. "I came here to support them and stand up for our democracy. We need to get it back."

But unlike 59 protesters who were briefly detained and fined $50 after being cited for similar activities as the DNC kicked off in Philadelphia this week, Sternberg and three other fence-jumpers were arrested by the Secret Service on misdemeanor charges of entering restricted grounds. The charges could carry up to a year in prison.

Sternberg was arrested around 8:30 p.m. Tuesday along with Barbara Burns, of Boston, Katherine Roberts, of North Carolina, and James Williams, of Maryland. They were detained overnight in the city's federal detention center before all four were released on their own recognizance after a hearing Wednesday afternoon.

Defense attorney Trevan Borum, who is representing Burns, said the protesters didn't realize they would get treated differently than previous protesters who just got fines.

"I think that her landing in federal court, and the other protesters getting civil citations, was quite a surprise," Borum said of his client.

Philadelphia decriminalized minor offenses several weeks before the convention to lessen the odds of the mass arrests that darkened the 2000 Republican National Convention in Philly.

The city planned to open city prisons to mass arrests of protesters, but despite marches by thousands of protesters storming through the city for causes like Sanders, Black Lives Matter and marijuana legalization, not a single arrest was reported until Tuesday night.

A spokeswoman for the Philadelphia U.S. Attorney's Office did not respond to requests for comment on why these protesters were arrested instead of cited.

Sternberg's attorney Paul Hetznecker said he plans to explore "whether or not they were selectively prosecuted" and why the decision was made to "charge them as opposed to following through on the citation they issued."

Sternberg provided a copy of the citation she first got when city police detained them, gave them citations and told them they would be free in a few hours, before they found out they would face federal charges.

"All of a sudden, we were put in the paddy wagon and taken to the federal jail," she recounted, adding that they had no idea they would later be charged with a federal misdemeanor. "Nobody really told us till after we got there."

Borum asserted that these protesters were legitimately exercising their First Amendment rights by trying to get in closer proximity to the convention when they climbed the fence.

"What good are First Amendment rights if you're in the middle of a forest protesting? … They deliberately segregated these protesters," Borum said.

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A delegate wears a "Thump Trump" sticker on the third day of the DNC. GETTY IMAGES

Backing Hillary Clinton, Democrats flag Trump's 'dangerous' approach

Delegates also formally nominated Tim Kaine as Clinton's running mate.

President Barack Obama was to paint an optimistic picture of America's future and give full-hearted support to Hillary Clinton in a speech on Wednesday to help her become the first woman elected U.S. president and stop Republican Donald Trump.

On a day when Democrats meeting at their convention in Philadelphia planned to tout their candidate as far better suited than Donald Trump to keep the country safe, the Republican gave his critics fresh fodder for attack with remarks that the Clinton campaign said posed a possible national security threat.

Grabbing the spotlight at a news conference in Miami, Trump urged Russia to find and release tens of thousands of emails that Clinton did not hand over to U.S. officials as part of a probe into her use of a private email system while she was secretary of state. Clinton has said those emails were private.

Wednesday's events in Philadelphia were aimed at contrasting the 68-year-old Clinton's foreign policy skills with Trump's "unsteady, unfit and dangerous approach," Clinton campaign chair John Podesta said.

Clinton made history when she secured the party's nomination on Tuesday. When she formally accepts it on Thursday, she will become the Democratic standard-bearer against Republican nominee Trump in the Nov. 8 election.

Trump, a 70-year-old New York businessman with no experience in political office, has hammered Clinton as untrustworthy and cast America as a place where security threats abound and law and order are breaking down. He has proposed deeply controversial measures such as temporarily banning Muslims from entering the country and building a wall on the border with Mexico to stop illegal immigrants.

The Clinton campaign portrays Trump, a former reality TV star, as temperamentally unfit for the White House.

Delegates at the convention formally nominated Tim Kaine, a U.S. senator from Virginia picked as Clinton's running mate last week, as the party's vice presidential candidate by voice vote on Wednesday.

Obama, who spoke after press time, was to offer an alternative to Trump's vision of the United States as being under siege from illegal immigrants and terrorism and losing its way in the world.

"The America I know is full of courage, and optimism, and ingenuity. The America I know is decent and generous," Obama said, according to excerpts of his speech released by the White House.

Nodding to voters' concerns, he was to say he understands frustrations "with political gridlock, worry about racial divisions" and Islamic State-inspired attacks in Orlando, Florida, and Nice, France.

"There are pockets of America that never recovered from factory closures; men who took pride in hard work and providing for their families who now feel forgotten," Obama will say.

He told NBC News his speech would make clear he is "100 percent convinced that Hillary Clinton can be a great president."

The focus of the speech was "on how Secretary Clinton has the judgment, the toughness and the intellect to succeed him in the Oval Office," White House spokesman Eric Schultz said.

Obama, who beat Clinton in the 2008 campaign for the Democratic nomination, was to speak 12 years to the day that he gave a keynote address, as an Illinois state senator, to the Democratic convention in 2004, which launched him on the national stage.

REUTERS

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Delegates at the DNC GETTY IMAGES

DNC A MISSED OPPORTUNITY

THE ERNEST OPINION

ERNEST OWENS
@MrErnestOwens

Before the Democratic National Convention, I had initially hoped for the local protesters to really make a huge statement that would make the nation focus on the big issues affecting our city. Instead, everyone was too busy being distracted by the sore-loser Bernie Sanders supporters.

Philadelphia has a public education crisis and an embarrassing poverty problem, and it was a huge lost opportunity for us to have the world stage and not take advantage to raise awareness.

Philadelphians were too busy showing off the city, bragging about our cheesesteaks, caught up in the renovations that are actually driving taxpayers crazy—anything but the urban American hardships that are far too common across this nation.

It felt uncomfortable seeing so many homeless people sleeping outside City Hall as visitors went sightseeing. It felt even worse that a lot of the big media outlets couldn't have cared less about the few small groups that tried to use their voices to bring attention to these issues. America was drinking our Kool-Aid, and it served us no purpose.

As television screens were fixated on Center City, Independence Hall and the cheesesteak battle royale in South Philly, who bothered to see how West and North Philly were doing? Time and time again, our major conventions – such as last year's World Meeting of Families — get clobbered by the Philly stereotypes of tasty greasy food and historic political sites.

There were a few impressive exceptions this time, though.

One that stood out to me was the push for sensible gun control by community leader Anton Moore. On Tuesday night, the Southwest native spoke eloquently at the convention about the persistent fatal gun crimes affecting our city.

It was heartening to see him take the global media, including NBC's "Dateline," ABC's "Nightline" and BET on a tour of the rough neighborhoods that City Hall probably didn't want the world to see. It was a revelation.

Moore's nonprofit, Unity in the Community, had the kind of serious conversations on the world stage that many of our local elected officials hardly ever speak about to the press. Many of them were too busy at the parties trying to bump shoulders with the celebrities. I know because I was there.

Which brings me back to a sobering truth — the DNC overall really wasn't about Philly taking advantage of a chance to possibly heal our city, but to show itself off again to the rest of the world. Sure, there were a few panels that were focused on community engagement — but most of the time, it was conventional convention business.

Folks were given a limited look into the complexities that are really affecting our city. This convention was about Philly looking like the Philadelphia the world assumes us to be — instead of the one we really are.

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Russia beefs up military on southwestern flank as NATO approaches

Moscow has deployed more air defense systems in the southwest and has also deployed a "self-sufficient" contingent of troops in Crimea, Shoigu told a meeting at the Defense Ministry broadcast on state television.

Russia has strengthened its southwestern flank as NATO builds up its military presence and Ukraine remains unstable, Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu said on Wednesday in remarks the United States called contrary to efforts to lower tensions.

"Since 2013 ... we have formed four divisions, nine brigades and 22 regiments," he said. "They include two missile brigades armed with Iskander missile complexes, which has allowed to boost fire power to destroy the potential adversary."

Shoigu said "terrorist" groups were also active in the North Caucasus.

John Kirby, a spokesman for the U.S. State Department, said Washington had seen the comments and "if true, we believe that this would appear to run counter to ongoing efforts to stop violence and de-escalate the tensions in eastern Ukraine."

Kirby said the United States expected Moscow to fulfill its obligations under the Minsk agreement to halt the war in eastern Ukraine and the Vienna document that attempts to provide transparency about military movements in the region.

He noted that the reports indicated the Russian buildup included troops in Crimea, which Moscow seized and later annexed.

Sergei Shoigu GETTY IMAGES

REUTERS

HERE'S TO RIDICULOUSNESS

"You're being ridiculous."

When comedian Sarah Silverman lobbed that rhetorical grenade into the seething mass of Bernie Sanders supporters at this week's Democratic National Convention, frustrated Hillary Clinton fans roared. For months they'd chafed over the Vermont senator's stubborn refusal to step aside for their candidate's coronation, and here was Silverman (a Sanders supporter herself) releasing their fury against his fans: Why are you clinging to a lost cause? Why are you embarrassing the party? Why are you being ridiculous?

The answer is simple. They still believe. Not in Bernie Sanders but in the idea that voting your conscience is not a waste, not unthinkable and certainly not ridiculous.

Now, to be sure, politics is filled with people who count votes, crush expectations, and sacrifice ideals every day to a greater goal of winning. And without these people, either party would suffer calamitous losses. For better or worse, this is the essential, cynical core of modern politics in which lawmaking is trench warfare. It is not unreasonable for Camp Clinton to be jonesing for the Bernsters to get on board.

But in conversations I have found Sanders supporters desperately wanting to believe in grand visions of great leadership where principles matter above pragmatism — where winning is not everything, and winning at the cost of your honor is nothing. They knew the odds, the party power and the money were against their guy from the start. And they did not care. They honestly thought he was the better choice, and they were inspired by other "ridiculous" voters.

"Ridiculous" voters lined up in 2008 behind a thinly qualified guy with an odd name and no chance of winning, only to push Barack Obama into the White House. "Ridiculous" voters in the Republican Party are, right now, refusing to back Donald Trump because they do not believe in the government he espouses. This fall, millions of Democrats living in solidly Republican states will cast "ridiculous" ballots, knowing not one electoral vote will flow to their party as a result.

Here is a hint to Hillary supporters: You just had a hugely successful convention. Your nominee is looking strong in the polls. You want to get the Sanders people on board? Stop insulting them. Stop belittling their ethics. And start listening to what they find troubling about your party's candidate. Because not addressing those concerns — well, that would truly be ridiculous.

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Facebook Inc's (FB.O) quarterly profit and revenue blew past Wall Street estimates as the company's hugely popular mobile app and a push into video attracted new advertisers and encouraged existing ones to spend more.

Mobile advertising revenue accounted for 84 percent of the company's total advertising revenue, compared with 76 percent a year earlier.

Total advertising revenue surged 63 percent to $6.24 billion, beating the average analyst estimate of $5.80 billion, according to market research firm FactSet StreetAccount.

Facebook said about 1.71 billion people used the site monthly as of June 30, up from 1.49 billion a year earlier. GETTY IMAGES

Facebook is one of the biggest beneficiaries as advertisers move money away from TV to the Internet and mobile platforms. The company has been beefing up its presence in the mobile video market, where Snapchat and YouTube pose strong competition.

The company is also exhorting advertisers to experiment with Facebook Live, its recently launched live video product.

Excluding items, the company earned 97 cents per share. Analysts on average had expected a profit of 82 cents per share, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

The net income attributable to Facebook's stockholders rose to $2.05 billion, or 71 cents per share, in the second quarter ended June 30, from $715 million, or 25 cents per share, a year earlier.

Total revenue rose 59.2 percent to $6.44 billion, compared with the estimate of $6.02 billion. REUTERS

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French government faces security criticisms after church attack

France's government faced criticism of its security record on Wednesday in the wake of revelations that one of the assailants who slit the throat of a priest at a church altar was a known would-be jihadist under police surveillance.

President Francois Hollande met interfaith leaders in an effort to promote national unity. But his predecessor and potential opponent in a presidential election next year, Nicolas Sarkozy, said the government must take stronger steps to track known Islamist sympathizers.

Tuesday's attackers interrupted a church service, forced 85-year-old Roman Catholic priest Father Jacques Hamel to his knees at the altar and slit his throat. As they came out of the church shouting "Allahu akbar" ("God is Greatest"), they were shot and killed by police.

The attack came less that two weeks after another suspected Islamist drove a truck into a Bastille Day crowd, killing 84 people. Opposition politicians have responded to the attacks with strong criticism of the Socialist government's security record, unlike last year, when they made a show of unity after gunmen and bombers killed 130 people in Paris in November and attacked a satirical newspaper in January.

"All this violence and barbarism has paralyzed the French left since January 2015," Sarkozy, who is expected to enter a conservative primary for next year's presidential election, told Le Vingt-Trois, told journalists after the meeting at the Elysee presidential palace.

Two French soldiers patrol as tourists walk along street stalls in Bayonne, southwestern France, on Wednesday. GETTY IMAGES

Monde newspaper. "It has lost its bearings and is clinging to a mindset that is out of touch with reality."

With some conservative politicians warning of a "war of religions," Hollande sought to head off divisions in a meeting with Christian, Jewish, Muslim and Buddhist leaders.

"We cannot allow ourselves to be dragged into the politics of Daesh [Islamic State], which wants to set the children of the same family against each other," the Archbishop of Paris, Cardinal Andre

Pope Francis said the slaying of a priest and a string of attacks in Europe in past weeks were proof the "world was at war," stressing this was not a war of religion but rather one of domination of peoples and economic interests.

Sarkozy has called for the detention or electronic tagging of all suspected Islamist militants, even if they have committed no offense. France's internal security service has confidential "S files" on some 10,500 suspected or aspiring jihadists.

Interior Minister Berard Cazeneuve rejected Sarkozy's proposal, saying that to jail them would be unconstitutional and counterproductive. REUTERS

BRIEF

German police hunt Algerian patient who yelled, 'I'll blow you up'

Police in Bremen, Germany, hunted for a 19-year-old Algerian refugee who had fled a psychiatric facility earlier in the day yelling, "I'll blow you up," but said they had no evidence he had any violent plans.

Police said that when the man was in custody this past weekend for several thefts, he had sympathized with Islamic State and a gunman who killed nine people at a shopping center in Munich last Friday. But they said there was no further evidence of any ties.

It was the latest incident to cause jitters in Germany after a spate of attacks that have claimed 15 lives since July 18, including those of four attackers. German officials have linked two of the incidents to Islamic State.

Authorities evacuated a shopping center in Bremen, about 40 km from the medical facility, after people identified a man who had been acting suspiciously as the missing patient.

Authorities were taking the incident seriously given the current situation in Germany, but emphasized that there was no evidence of an imminent attack. REUTERS

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7104 Tonya Woods • 7109 Tori Taylor • 1011 Danielle Gibson • 4011 Larry Johnson • 7023 Dyteshia Cropper
A08 Raymond Clayton • 4055 Keenita Castle • 6021 Aaron Peoples • 1010 Tyheera Sanders • 2059 C C Armsteed Jr
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1124 Christy White • A14 Alisha Rylander

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STORAGE KING USA **NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**

Notice is hereby given that Storage King USA will sell the contents of the storage units listed below at a public auction to satisfy a lien placed on the contents pursuant to 73 PS. The sales will take place on 8/11/16. The sale will be conducted on StorageStuff.Bid, under the guidance of Christopher Ross (AU005857) on behalf of the facilities' mgmnt. Units will be available for viewing prior to the sale on StorageStuff.Bid. Contents will be sold for cash only to the highest bidder. A 10% buyer's premium will be charged and $100 (units larger than 150 sq ft will be more) cleaning deposit per unit. All sales are final. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale or to refuse any bids. The property to be sold is described as "general household items" unless otherwise noted. Storage King USA at 5134 Lancaster Ave., Philadelphia PA 19131 will list storage units on the website StorageStuff.Bid at 11:00 a.m. 8/11/16 or up to 7 days prior to this date.

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Study: Climate change risk threatens 18 military sites

Nonprofit group the Union of Concerned Scientists analyzed 18 military installations that represent more than 120 coastal bases nationwide to weigh the impact of climate change on their operations.

Naval Air Station Key West in Key West, Florida. GETTY IMAGES

Rising sea levels due to hurricanes and tidal flooding intensified by climate change will put military bases along the East Coast and Gulf Coast at risk, according to a report released on Wednesday.

Faster rates of sea level rises in the second half of this century could mean that tidal flooding will become a daily occurrence for some installations, pushing useable land needed for military training and testing into tidal zones, said the report titled "The U.S. Military on the Front Lines of Rising Seas."

By 2050, most of these sites will be hit by more than 10 times the number of floods than at present, the report said, and at least half of them will experience daily floods.

Four of those — including the Naval Air Station in Key West, Florida, and the Marine Corps recruit depot in South Carolina — could lose between 75 and 95 percent of their land in this century.

The report said the Pentagon already recognizes the threat of climate change on its military installations but warned that more resources and monitoring systems are needed to boost preparedness.

But last month, the House Appropriations Committee passed an amendment that blocked funding for the Pentagon's climate adaptation strategy.

"Our defense leadership has a special responsibility to protect the sites that hundreds of thousands of Americans depend on for their livelihoods and millions depend on for national security," the report said.

REUTERS

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Great Red Spot storm heating Jupiter's atmosphere

Scientists have long wondered why Jupiter's upper atmosphere has temperatures similar to those of Earth, even though the biggest planet in the solar system is five times farther away from the sun.

The answer may be The Great Red Spot, an enormous storm big enough to swallow three Earths that has been raging on Jupiter for at least three centuries, a study showed on Wednesday.

Using an infrared telescope at Hawaii's Mauna Kea Observatory, scientists discovered that the upper atmosphere above the Great Red Spot — the largest storm in the solar system — is hundreds of degrees hotter than anywhere else on the planet.

Jupiter SSPL/GETTY IMAGES

It could be a coincidence or a major clue, said Boston University physicist James O'Donoghue, lead scientist of the study published in the journal Nature.

The storm spans 13,670 miles by 7,456 miles and is located in Jupiter's lower atmosphere. The top of its clouds reach altitudes of about 31 miles.

By a process of elimination, the newly found hot spot must be heated from below, the study concluded.

The finding provides a strong link between Jupiter's upper and lower atmosphere, though the exact process by which heat is transferred remains unknown. The most-likely energy source is acoustic waves that provide heat from below, the study said.

Scientists also are unsure why the storm is brick red, nor why it has changed color over time. In a 1900 report in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, scientists described the oval storm as salmon pink. Recent images from the Hubble Space Telescope show it has become orange tinged and more circular. REUTERS

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Julia Stiles returns as government technician-turned-radical Nicky Parsons in "Jason Bourne." JASIN BOLAND

Julia Stiles flexes her muscles

THE FUN STARTS HERE

In "Jason Bourne," the actress plays a woman who's not just there to make out with the hero.

MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
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Julia Stiles has something to brag about: She's the only actor who's been in all of the "Bourne" movies that feature Matt Damon (other than Matt Damon himself, that is).

Her character has changed a lot, too. When we met her in "The Bourne Identity," Nicky Parsons was a mere technician working for a shadowy part of the government. By "Ultimatum" she was on the run with Bourne. When we reunite with her in the new "Jason Bourne," she's essentially Edward Snowden, looking to leak files that expose a corrupt agency.

The actress, 35, says the films are no mere action movies, but commentaries on today's fraught world.

Over the four films she's been in, Nicky has dramatically evolved. Now she's a radical.

She's radicalized but she's alone. She's not part of a group. She's very much isolated, except when she seeks out her only ally, Jason Bourne. What I liked about this installment is Nicky's involvement is very different. She's a lot more active. She's not just taking orders or being obedient or reactive. She's been kind of in the wings until now. I thought she had a clean slate after we had left her in "The Bourne Ultimatum," when she was put on a bus and had to go into hiding. Rather than just running for her life, she's trying to take control and become incredibly rebellious and dissident.

Real talk

There have been complaints about the poster featuring Jason Bourne holding a gun. But I don't think these films are normal action movies that simply glorify violence. The perspective of these movies are not that guns are cool or that violence is something macho and great. It's actually the opposite of that. The main character is struggling with his conscience. He feels the repercussions of what he's done in the past.

And she's still not remotely a token love interest, which is unusual.

Absolutely. The two female characters in this film never once stop in the middle of the action to make out with the leading man. That's very different from these types of movies.

Strong female characters who aren't defined by their relationships with men seem to be a little more on the rise these days.

It's hard for me to talk about that on a big scale. This movie was made up of creative forces who are really intelligent, thoughtful, well-informed, conscientious people. But I do think the climate is changing. Audiences have expressed interest in seeing other types of roles for women. But honestly, I'm a little sick of people denying roles for women that are the mother or the girlfriend or the wife. Those can still be interesting.

The "Bourne" films are unusually engaged with the politics of the day. What do you think "Jason Bourne" says about 2016?

The characters are struggling with having devoted their lives to an agency and a government that we're all questioning now. Tommy Lee Jones' character [one of the higher-ups in the CIA] is on the other side of that: He thinks the ends justify the means. When I first read the script, I really liked that when Nicky meets Jason Bourne again they do it in the middle of a huge chaotic riot, in a very volatile place in the world. That's based on real events that happened. These movies take place in a world that's very recognizable to what's going on now.

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Matt Damon is older, more weathered but never more ripped in "Jason Bourne." JASIN BOLAND

"Jason Bourne"

Director: Paul Greengrass
Stars: Matt Damon, Alicia Vikander
Rating: PG-13

●●○○○

"Jason Bourne" isn't five minutes old and its hero has knocked out a dude. The series' fifth film, though only fourth with Matt Damon, is quick to establish its bona fides as a brutal, thrilling, worthy new entry. But it's a lie. Despite bringing back its original star and its best director (Paul Greengrass, of "Supremacy" and "Ultimatum"), this is the first of their "Bournes" to not go next-level. It tries to bring back the good old days but comes off like the guy who still wants to shotgun Buds (or Americas) at 50 while blasting W.A.S.P.

It's a major step-down from "Ultimatum," which is even more obvious since the new one's almost a remake. Most of the big beats are hit, including an early chase in a crowded public space, a mid-film scamper about a twisty city and a dynamite car chase.

But the story is sloppier, noticeably dumber. Bourne is called out of hiding for insufficient reasons, then tries to stop the series' fourth scary old white guy (Tommy Lee Jones). There's also an even more expanded surveillance program, which is opposed by a Mark Zuckerberg type (Riz Ahmed) in too deep with government goons. Yes, this is a movie in which Jason Bourne tries to save Facebook.

Released in 2007, "Ultimatum" was steeped in the sickly climate of the time. Its villains were the types who waged war without oversight or regulation, who talked about only stopping "when we've won," whenever that is. It was a '70s conspiracy thriller modernized and 'roided up.

This one flails about trying to fit Bourne into the age of Obama. When it turns topical, its references to real life ills feel shoe-horned in, inorganic. It does deliver the goods, occasionally, and Greengrass can still deliver nerve-jangling set pieces. With a lesser franchise, it might not be crushing that "Jason Bourne" is a mere disposable time killer. MATT PRIGGE

Emma Roberts plays a shy girl who signs up for a smartphone game that has players try increasingly crazy dares in "Nerve." NIKO TAVERNISE

"Nerve"

Directors: Henry Joost, Ariel Schulman
Stars: Emma Roberts, Dave Franco
Rating: PG-13

●●●○○

It sounds like a get-off-my-lawn bellow, delivered by an old: In "Nerve," there's this smartphone game all the kids love, and it's more annoying than Pokemon Go. In it, players try to perform a series of increasingly crazy tasks that dare them to be stupid. They start off mischievous, playful, but soon escalate to dangerous. Even at its most deadly, legions of followers watch in giddy disbelief at their screens, egging on participants, demanding a night of wild entertainment.

Thing is, "Nerve" does have a lot to say about how tech has changed us. It just couches its insights in an intoxicating, savvy thriller that shows the dark and fun sides of social media. Emma Roberts is Vee, a mousy high schooler who decides to prove she can go bold by signing up for this new viral sensation. Suddenly she finds herself kissing a stranger. He's Ian (Dave Franco), and he's a player, too. The pair partner up, carousing about Manhattan while attempting the same dares. Gradually it becomes apparent the secret cabal that controls Nerve may have sinister motives.

As in their film "Catfish," directors Henry Joost and Ariel Schulman keep things lively and modern, blending the real world with the viral. They pepper their images with smartphone pop-ups: distracting notifications, scrolling comments, neon lines indicating which players are where in the city. "Nerve" moves fast and is, for awhile at least, elegantly plotted. It seems too good to be true, and it is, sort of. After a dynamite first two acts, the third gets sloppy and silly. "Nerve" isn't smart enough to avoid turning stupid, but it is smart enough to show off its smarts entertainingly. MP

Kristen Bell, Mila Kunis and Kathryn Hahn should drink more in "Bad Moms." STX PRODUCTIONS

"Bad Moms"

Directors: Jon Lucas, Scott Moore
Stars: Mila Kunis, Kristen Bell
Rating: R

●●○○○

Jon Lucas and Scott Moore will be forever known as "the guys who wrote 'The Hangover.'" Their claim to fame was a raucous boys' comedy, with a premise so simple it could be summarized in one grabby sentence. No such luck for ladies. Lucas and Moore's "Bad Moms" is more sprawling, its hook more vague, the comedic hijinks rarely inspired. The guys got to run afoul of eccentric gangsters and mystery babies and Tasers. The girls get drunk at a dive bar and then later at a house party.

What "Bad Moms" lacks in wild inspiration it marginally makes up for with genuine empathy and even bits of real insight into the strains (and, inevitably, joys) of motherhood. A keyed-up Mila Kunis plays Amy, a forever-harried mother of two, who's barely able to juggle a part-time job with parenthood. She finds her life changed anew upon meeting two fellow moms: Kristen Bell's Kiki and Kathryn Hahn's Carla. Kiki is even more stressed than Amy; Carla simply doesn't give a crap.

Together they decide to become bad moms. (Amy says, "Let's become bad moms!") What that means is up for debate. Mostly they drink a little more, call out of work to go to a movie matinee, ask their kids to make their own breakfast for a change. It's a film that flails about wasting its premise, relying on its actors to cover its butt. At least they deliver. Our three leads are enjoyable, and all the supporting roles are filled by ringers, who fire off lines about how great it is that the hot widower (Jay Hernandez) has a wife who's dead. It's a good cast and a good vibe in search of a movie that gives them something better to do. MP

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Funny or Die takes on the DNC 2016

Ken Jeong and Andrea Savage spoof the Donald.

JENNIFER LOGUE
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Ken Jeong learns about Trump's Business practices in "Donald Decoded: Outsourcing." YOUTUBE

It isn't all long-winded political speeches at the DNC. You can imagine our delight when Ken Jeong, best known for his role as Mr. Chow in "The Hangover," appeared onscreen alongside economist Austan Goolsbee for the video, "Donald Decoded: Outsourcing."

The comedy site Funny or Die produced four videos in total for the DNC this year — one for each night of the convention. Bed Sheehan, executive producer and head of talent tells us what it was like working with Jeong and why comedy is so effective in getting a message across.

What is a typical day like for you at Funny or Die?
A typical day is that I'll go through email and see what requests have come in from talent to do Funny or Die videos — whether it's actors, actresses, musicians, comedians, reality personalities. People reach out all the time. I field those requests and talk with the staff to see if they make sense.

Do you have a hand in writing the bits, too?
Sometimes I will come up with an idea and then I'll work with one of our writers, but my role is primarily as a producer rather than a writer. The one thing I do actually get to write are when we do songs. I have a music background so I write a lot of the songs that have become topical comedy music videos for our site.

Very cool! So let's talk about this DNC video series. How did that come about?
Yes. The DNC and its affiliates approached us and asked us to create them. I don't know which of the ones will end up airing, because we made four for them and some might be online only. As of now, the Ken Jeong one aired Monday night. They star four really funny comedians and two different economists and they basically take a look at different economic platforms, plans and histories of Donald Trump.

What was it like working with Ken Jeong?
He is so nice, so smart, very thoughtful and so funny on set. And obviously we had certain policy points that we had to hit but some of the best lines in the video are things that he improvised.

Oh, I loved his "Holy Melania!"
I'm almost positive that's improv on Ken's part. [laughs]

So what other celebrities did you work with on these videos?
We have a video coming out with a very funny comedian named Andrea Savage, who is on the current season of "Veep." Also Michael Ian Black and Cameron Esposito — we also shot videos with them.

It used to be that music was the platform to express political beliefs, but now comedy seems to be a bigger platform for it. What are your thoughts on that?
I completely hear your point and I still think that there is a lot of great current political music, but you're probably not going to find it on the pop charts. Also, there are more musicians coming out and expressing political points of view. If you look at Beyonce, her first music video off her most recent album, that's an incredible political and social piece. With comedy, I've always felt at the core of comedy is truth. Also, being able to take a complex issue and infuse humor into it makes it a little more palatable.

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Endlessly Eazy

When the Endless Summer Tour rolls through this summer, the rap-centric showcase brings with it strident MC Logic, YG — the man behind "F— Donald Trump" — and party ball hip-hop king, Yo Gotti. As a headliner though, it's Gerald "G-Eazy" Gillum's show.

With his chiseled good looks and dark hair, he could be a matinee idol from another era. But when he starts to rap atop creepy electronic soundscapes — from albums such as "These Things Happen" and "When It's Dark Out" or singles such as his contribution to the "Ghostbusters" soundtrack — he's hip-hop's evil demon child. Twist!

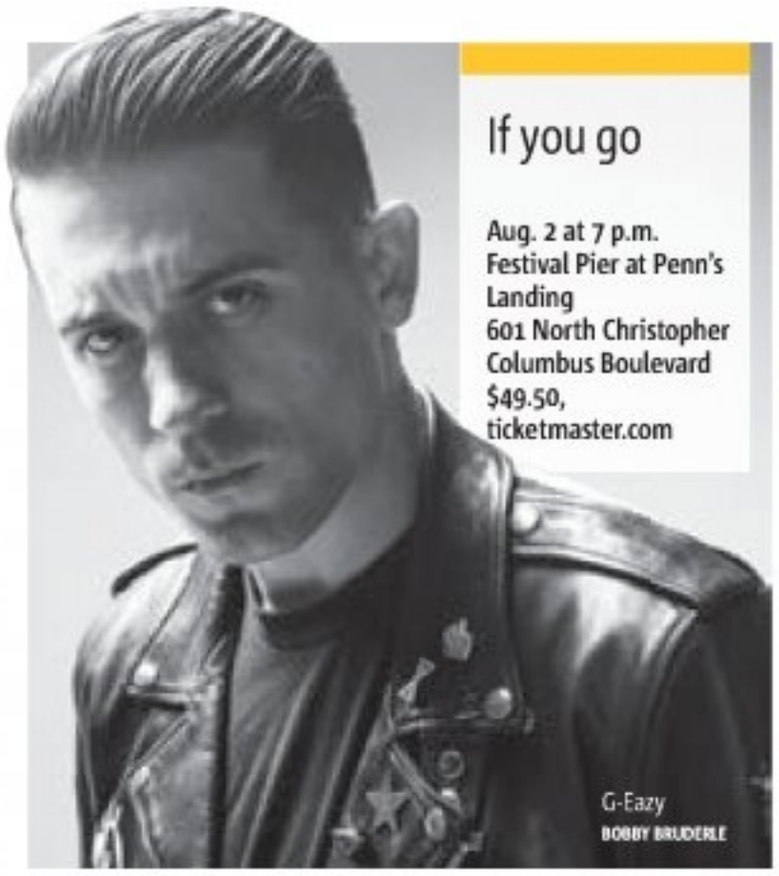
Do you and YG go back a ways? You two just did the "FDT" remix and it's a monster.
Yeah, that's my homie. I told him at the time how important I felt that song was, with everything going on in our country and everything. It's rare to be able to make social or political commentary on a club anthem, [and] if you play that song at any party, it goes up.

Talking about hookups, you just got a very big deal with the "Ghostbusters" soundtrack — the song, "Saw It Coming" with Jeremih. How did the film opportunity come up?
I couldn't believe it when they emailed us asking me to do it. … I mean, I was a big fan of the original movies, so when I heard they were doing a reboot I got excited, but then to be asked to jump on the soundtrack, I mean that's a big deal.

"This s— is not random" is a theme that runs through your most recent album. Do you think that people underrate what you do?
"Me, Myself & I" was a huge record, and I think to some people it kind of felt like it came out of nowhere. You have to dig and do some research to find out that I've been working at this for over 10 years now. So, of course that gets frustrating when people try to write you off as if this just fell out of the sky and landed on my lap. I've worked my ass off for everything I have.

What can you tell me about showing up on Britney Spears' upcoming album? Was she easy to work with?
Being asked to do that was insane; I kind of couldn't believe it at first. I was like, "Of all people, you want me?" But I did it the second she asked, we were in Australia on tour and we found a studio somewhere and cut it as soon as they sent the song.

A.D. AMOROSI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Location: 1231 N. Broad Street, 4th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19122
www.philaoic.org

OIC is also taking Front Office Operations & Culinary Arts applications for November classes.

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WHERE TO EAT, DRINK & PLAY

Potterdelphia: 4 Ways to Celebrate the release of 'Harry Potter and the Cursed Child'

Where Potter-loving Muggles can mix and mingle.

JENNIFER LOGUE
@jenniferlogue
jennifer.logue@metro.us

Harry Potter fans, rejoice! The magic of the beloved book series by J.K. Rowling is back July 31 — but not as you'd expect. The latest addition to the Harry Potter universe is a play, and while Rowling had a hand in overseeing the project, the manuscript was penned by Jack Thorne and follows our characters 19 years after the Battle of Hogwarts. Although it's been more than nine years since the release of "Deathly Hallows," Potter fans are more passionate than ever, and Philly has an array of parties and even Potter-themed sushi to celebrate the occasion.

Barnes and Noble release party

1805 Walnut St., Philadelphia
Saturday, July 30
8 p.m.
barnesandnoble.com

The Barnes and Noble bookstore at Rittenhouse Square is taking us back with a Harry Potter midnight release party. Expect to see fans young and old dressed up as their favorite Harry Potter characters and passing the time posing for Instagram photos and rereading older Harry Potter books.

The Doylestown Bookshop

16 S. Main St., Doylestown
Saturday, July 30
10 p.m.
doylestownbookshop.com

This locally owned and operated bookstore is also throwing a midnight release party but with a slightly later start time. Refreshments, raffles and themed activities await attendees. Tempted to try a dose of Polyjuice Potion? Here's your chance. You can also put your magical history knowledge to the test by participating in a round of O.W.L. and N.E.W.T. Trivia.

Big Blue Marble Bookstore

551 Carpenter Lane, Mount Airy
Saturday, July 30
6 p.m.
bigbluemarblebooks.com

This party starts earlier than most but includes a screening of "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 2" as well as a special documentary on the world of Harry Potter. Local author Lorrie Kim will also release her book, "Snape: A Definitive Reading" along with a special discussion and trivia on the potions master. Squee!

The Gryffindor Roll at Zama Sushi STEPH DEFEO

Zama Sushi

128 S. 19th St.
July 29-July 31
All weekend long
zamaphilly.com

Zama Sushi near Rittenhouse is performing some sushi sorcery with its Harry Potter- themed sushi. Four rolls are available all weekend in celebration of the play and represent each of the houses of Hogwarts — Gryffindor, Slytherin, Ravenclaw and Hufflepuff. Prices range from $16 to $24 for each roll.

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EAT LIKE AN INSIDER

Eric Leveillee

Eric Leveille is the sou chef at Whetstone Tavern, which recently celebrated its one year anniversary. PROVIDED

Eric Leveille is sous chef at Whetstone Tavern — a Queen Village restaurant and bar serving up classic American Tavern fare. A Rhode Island native, Leveille moved to Philadelphia and attended Temple University to pursue a degree in economics. His first job in food was at El Camino, working as a server under Jen Zavala. From there, he's worked for Philly-based restaurateurs Greg Vernick and now, Jeremy Nolen, chef and co-owner at Whetstone. Inspired by memories of his father in the kitchen, Leveille says a lot of the offerings on the Whetstone menu are interpretations of dish he ate as a child — skirt steak, corn salsa and Rhode Island-style clam chowder. Leveille chatted with us about why Bok Bar makes a great date spot and why Aldine is a must for food-obsessed Instagrammers.

Best late night meal

Prima taco (1104 S. 9th St.) is open until 4 a.m. and my favorite thing to get there is the No. 27 torta. I'm not even sure what it is, but it's delicious! (For the record, this particular menu item is Milanesa de Res and it's breaded steak on crusty bread with refried beans, mayonnaise, avocado and onion.)

"Cacio e pepe" alla chitarra with summer squash CRAIG FINEBURG

Best meal under $10

The salt bagel at Philly Style Bagels (1451 E. Columbia Ave). My friend Colin is one of the owners, and he is killing it!

Best hidden foodie gem

The Sang Kee Peking Duck House in Chinatown (238 North 9th St.). Their duck and fried dumplings are amazing and their logo is a duck with a chef hat.

Best place to dine alone

Cheu in Washington Square (255 S. 10th St.). The yakisoba is great and you can sit at the counter and watch the kitchen and feel less weird about eating alone.

Place you always take or recommend for out-of-towners

Nick's Roast Beef (16 S 2nd St.) for lunch, because it's pretty Philly, and Vernick Food and Drink (2031 Walnut St.) for dinner because it's always perfect.

Go-to date spot

Bok Bar (1901 S. 9th St.) because the view is beautiful and being on a roof is cool.

Best place to catch up with friends

The Rocket Cat Cafe (2001 Frankford Ave.). It's small and modest and the backyard is a perfect place for conversation.

Most Instagrammable restaurant

Most of my Instagram is plates and Aldine (1901 Chestnut St.) is making some pretty inspiring ones.

For more on Whetstone Tavern, visit whetstonetavern.com and be sure to try the cheese plate, which features three cheeses and pickled fruit.

JENNIFER LOGUE

HOT PLATE

Sweet Charlie's brings Thai-style rolled ice cream to Philly

The Namaste throws strawberries and pound cake in the mix. STEPH DEFEO

Jennifer Logue eats her way through Philadelphia.
jennifer.logue@metro.us

If you live near Washington Square, you know that the neighborhood is a bit sleepy compared to the hustle and bustle of Rittenhouse. However, there's a new ice cream shop that is giving Philly residents and tourists a welcome sugar rush — Sweet Charlie's.

Since opening, it's been pretty hard to miss, especially given that there's always a long line of repeat customers down the sidewalk.

So what's so special about hand-rolled ice cream? For one, it's more natural. Popularized in Thailand, each ice cream is freshly prepared on a granite surface with a temperature below 20 degrees. Because it's eaten right away, it removes the need for preservatives and emulsifiers. The liquid ice cream base is poured onto the cold surface with flavor elements being added on top. Once it solidifies, the mixture is then rolled into roselike wraps of ice cold yumminess.

As far as flavors go, there are so many options. Among fellow patrons waiting in line, the most popular recommendation was Namaste — made of pound cake and fresh strawberries. Did I mention you get to add toppings, too?

I ended up going for the Namaste sans toppings and later returned for the S'More Please, which contained graham cracker, Hershey's chocolate and toasted marshmallow.

The verdict? Both were delicious and surprisingly light. However, given the ice cream is so pure, it tends to melt more quickly than traditional ice cream in the sun, so be sure to grab napkins on your way out.

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DNC 2016

Oxymoron No Longer: Innovation and Local Government

On the final night of the DNC, four young mayors, like John Fetterman and Svante Myrick, convene for a chat about some of the innovative ways they worked to bring change to their cities. Your ticket grants you free admission to the Barnes galleries and a post-chat watch party as Hillary Clinton accepts the Democratic nomination.
July 28, 6-10 p.m.
The Barnes Foundation
2025 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
$5
ticketleap.com

Post-DNC Dance Party

The DNC may wrap up Thursday, but the red, white and blue vibes continue through Friday at the Post-DNC Dance Party under the Shambles. Held on National Dance Day, the fete features jazz-age tunes from the BlackBird Society Orchestra and dancing by the Society Hill Dance Academy and, well, you. The party goes till 10 p.m., with food and drinks provided by local restaurants.
July 29, 7-10 p.m.
Headhouse Shambles
Second and Pine streets
Free
southstreet.com

FOOD

Philly's BBQ Fest 2016

Taste your way through 40 vendors at Philly's first large-scale barbecue sampling event. The hoopla also features live entertainment, cooking demonstrations, carnival games and a craft beer garden where you can wash down all that tangy goodness. As an added perk, your ticket to the BBQ Fest also grants you entry to that night's Phillies game.
July 30, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Citizens Bank Park
1 Citizens Bank Way
$50-$75
phillybbqfest.com

MUSIC

Jazz on the Ave

Jazz on the Ave keeps alive a time-honored tradition on Cecil B. Moore, which once played home to jazz clubs where folks like Billie Holiday, John Coltrane and Dizzie Gillespie played. Now in its 10th year, the daylong concert welcomes performances by Jeff Bradshaw, neo-soul queen Jaguar Wright and gospel powerhouse Kim Burrell. Don't forget your lawn chair!
July 30, noon-8:30 p.m.
Cecil B. Moore Avenue
Between Broad and 17th streets
Free
jazzontheavephilly.com

PARTIES

Silent Philly Party

Silent Philly is throwing a mute dance party at the Piazza Friday night. Guests hit the dance floor wearing a pair of glowing headphones blaring everything from reggae to R&B to '80s pop. The best part is taking them off and watching the crowd dancing to absolute silence. Food and drinks will be served courtesy of a host of Northern Liberties bars and restaurants.
July 29, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.
The Schmidt's Commons
1001 N. Second St.
$15
silentphilly.com

PROVIDED

DNC 2016

DNC Watch Party at the Piazza

If you prefer to do your DNC watching outdoors, the Piazza at Schmidt's is hosting a viewing party on their Jumbotron. Onsite eateries Crabby's Cafe, Gunners Run and Wahlburgers Food Truck will serve up the grub, while Bar Ferdinand slings DNC-inspired cocktails, like The Hillary, a tequila drink with sour mix, a splash of lime and topped with a can of Hell or High Watermelon beer. What, no hot sauce?
July 28, 7 p.m.
The Piazza at Schmidt's Commons
Second Street and Germantown Avenue
Free
theschmidtscommons.com

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Big Freedia

The self-proclaimed "Queen Diva," Big Freedia, returns to Philly for Power 99's Slay Ball. The New Orleans glamazon is known for her energetic style of bounce music, and as the central figure in the Fuse reality show "Big Freedia: Queen of Bounce." Billed as a pride party, the evening also features a performance by local drag troupe Philly Drag Mafia, led by the Gayborhood's own queen diva, Brittany Lynn.

July 29, 9 p.m.
2300 Arena
2300 S. Swanson St.
$25-$75
2300arena.com

MOVIES

'Star Wars: The Force Awakens'

The latest chapter in the "Star Wars" saga makes it back to the big screen Thursday night as part of the Great Plaza at Penn's Landing's Screenings Under the Stars series.

July 28, 8:30 p.m.
Great Plaza at Penn's Landing
101 S. Christopher Columbus Blvd.
Free
delawareriverwaterfront.com

OFF THE WALL

Yogi, Wild and Free

Palo Santo Wellness Boutique owner Daniel Cordura describes this class as a yoga dance party — perfect for those who crave a little freestyle movement mixed in their practice. Instructors Chelsea Gilday and David Hem lead you through the creative, two-hour workshop that promises to have you doing "funky inversions" and "arm balances from another dimension" to a playlist of impossibly danceable tunes.

July 10, 2-4 p.m.
Palo Santo Wellness Boutique
1707 E. Passyunk Ave.
$28
palosantowellnessboutique.com

JOSH MIDDLETON

Jazz Age on the Delaware

"Downton Abbey" meets the Delaware River. This second annual fete invites folks dressed in their Roaring '20s best to the banks of the river for an afternoon of picnicking and mingling. Spread out on the lawn in front of the stately Glen Foerd mansion will be lawn games, baking competitions, vintage retailers and dancing to tunes courtesy of 1920s-inspired acts.

July 30, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
Glen Foerd on the Delaware
5001 Grant Ave.
$45-$150
jazzageonthedelaware.com

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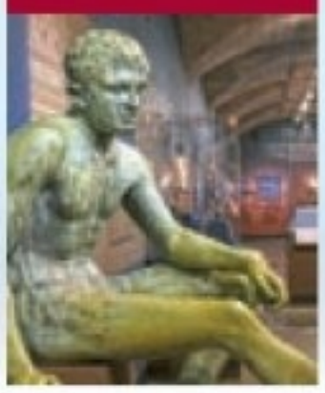
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Gray Malin's Hamptons

The king of beach airscapes shares his tips on what not to miss Out East.

CHLOE TSANG
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Montauk Point Beach 'BEACHES'

Surf Lodge
GETTY IMAGES

Gray Malin has turned beach photography into fine art. His cheery aerial shots of destination shorelines are probably on every design enthusiast's wall — a career that started as a hobby. In May, Malin released "Beaches," a travelogue that weaves together his iPhone-case-worthy images with insider tips and anecdotes.

The project also falls in line with Malin's personal philosophy, "Make every day a getaway," he tells us. "I want people to take a moment and escape when they see a piece of my work."

When a seasoned beachgoer like Malin calls the Hamptons "the most charming beach community in America," we couldn't pass up the chance to ask him about his go-to spots.

Sunset Beach

In addition to the tasty restaurants, Sunset Beach on Shelter Island offers a gorgeous scene. "It kind of feels like you're in St. Tropez," says Malin. "It shocked me — it just has a different feel to it."

Almond

1 Ocean Rd., Bridgehampton

"It's the best place to grab a drink with friends on a summer night," he says. "They serve a great Manhattan."

Silver's

15 Main St., Southampton

The classic spot, which is open only for lunch, features an "incredible" lobster roll, according to the photographer.

Fowler Beach, Southampton

If you're searching for a scene that's more off the beaten path, check out Fowler Beach. "It's nice, nearby and charming, with these cool sand dunes," Malin says.

Gray Malin
GETTY IMAGES

The Fudge Company

67 Main St., Southampton

Located on Main Street, The Fudge Company serves all kinds of classic desserts including ice cream, chocolates, fudge and saltwater taffy.

Babette's

66 Newtown Lane, East Hampton

For a charming breakfast/brunch spot, look no further than Babette's in East Hampton. Malin says the "It's truly the most quintessential, all-American ice cream shop. It probably hasn't changed in 20 years, and I love it."

Tate's Bake Shop

43 North Sea Road, Southampton

Tate's serves good coffee, but Malin says to head straight for the ice cream cookie sandwiches. "It's half-dipped in chocolate, and it's the best thing ever. It's a staple every day when I'm there."

Pierre's

2468 Main St., Bridgehampton

"It has a pretty cute sidewalk and outdoor seating with martinis, oysters, that kind of thing."

coffee and pastries are a nice way to start off the mornings.

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Disney's Typhoon Lagoon GETTY IMAGES

Noah's Ark

With 51 water slides on 70 acres of prime Wisconsin Dells property, Noah's Ark Water Park is officially the largest water park in the U.S. Start with the park's most popular slide, Scorpion's Tail, a wondrous feat of physics that drops riders through a trapdoor capsule into a nearly inverted loop.

Disney's Typhoon Lagoon

One of two water parks at Disney World Resort, Typhoon Lagoon is styled as a disheveled beach town that has just resurfaced. Park standouts include one of the world's biggest wave pools and the Crush 'n' Gusher water coaster that rockets riders on rafts through tight curves and bunny-hill drops.

Tropical Islands

Converting a former aircraft hangar into Tropical Islands, the world's largest indoor water park, was no small feat for Krausnick in Germany. The park has four distinct areas, themed to recreate a rainforest and the exotic coasts of Bali.

Aquaventure

A desert oasis set on the shore of the Persian Gulf, Dubai's Aquaventure Waterpark is a standout amusement in a city known for its opulence. Attached to the plush Atlantis Resort on the man-made Palm Jumeira island, Aquaventure offers a wealth of thrilling slides, but none more elaborate than the Leap of Faith: a nine-story near-vertical drop slide that sends riders in an enclosed tube through shark-infested waters.

Siam Park

On Tenerife Island in the Canary Islands, the lush grounds of Siam Park in Adeje, Spain, overflow with charm and character. Completed in 2008, Siam Park (it's Thai themed) holds a few world records with its innovative engineering, including the world's largest man-made wave (11 feet!) in its expansive wave pool, the world's largest dragon statue, and the largest collection of Thai-themed buildings outside Thailand.

Beach Park

The palm trees and cool breeze beach themes come naturally at Beach Park, a premier Brazilian resort set on the Atlantic coast in Aquiraz. The park has made a name for itself with its impressive slides and well-maintained beachfront. You'll have plenty of time to enjoy the view as your make your way up to the monstrous Insano, the park's iconic drop slide.

Waterbom Bali

Trade a day on the beach for a wet and wild adventure at Waterbom Bali water park in Kuta, Indonesia. The Climax slide steals the spotlight — a vertical looping fall-out slide that propels riders along at over 40 mph and 2.5 G-forces. The park is a family favorite, with an impressively adorned tropical lazy river snaking throughout the park.

Aqualandia

If you're thinking of swimming in the canals of Venice, consider trekking about 45 minutes east instead to Aqualandia in Jesolo. More than 25 attractions fill the park's eight areas themed to replicate the Caribbean seaside. Don't miss Spacemaker, one of the tallest slides in the world, nearly 138 feet high and reaching speeds of 74 mph.

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Eagles linebacker Tavarres is the kind of underdog Philadelphia fans cling to

The undrafted rookie has taken a unique path to Eagles' camp.

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"If you do not try then you do not do, and if you do not do then why are you here?"

This is the quote tattooed on Eagles' undrafted free agent Myke Tavarres, a rookie trying to make the 53-man roster as a linebacker and special teams contributor.

"In high school I used to wrestle," Tavarres, the Oregon native, said. "My coach, Before every match he read this quote and it got me through everything."

Tavarres is an interesting professional football player. He didn't think about playing in the NFL until midway through his senior year. Partially because he was focused on academics, and partially because of where he played — for the Incarnate Word Cardinals.

"Honestly I wasn't even worried about the NFL when I got to Incarnate Word I was just focused on getting my degree and finishing school," he said. "Toward the middle of the season I heard I had a pretty good shot at making the NFL so I decided to go for it."

Tavarres first attended Arkansas, and clearly showed he had SEC talent. However a friend convinced him to transfer to the tiny Texas school where he shined in the classroom and on the football field. All he's thinking about now is showing he belongs in the NFL.

"If you do not try then you do not do, and if you do not do then why are you here?"

The quote tattooed on Eagles rookie Myke Tavarres

"I am versatile," Tavarres said. "My goal on special teams is to be the first man down there and not just to make the play but to make the tackle."

As Doug Pederson mentioned when he spoke to the media Wednesday, the battle for a spot as a linebacker is competitive. But the multifaceted skills of Tavarres on special teams could punch his NFL ticket.

Myke Tavarres is trying to make the Eagles roster as a linebacker and special teams contributor. @MYKET14/TWITTER

"We have three starters with Nigel [Bradham], Jordan Hicks is coming back ready to go and Mychal Kendricks," Pederson said. "Joe Walker has also done a great job this offseason to position himself as a backup. We will continue to moniter the position and upgrade if we can but I am very impressed with all of these players, the rookies, in the offseason."

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Eagles head coach a big fan of Jon Dorenbos on 'AGT'

Doug Pederson says he has no concerns about his long snapper's second job.

EVAN MACY
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Jon Dorenbos is an accomplished special teams player in the NFL — and a world-class magician. GETTY IMAGES

There aren't too many magicians in NFL locker rooms.

Come to think of it, there really aren't too many on TV either.

But Jon Dorenbos has never been one to care about things like that. He's proven to pretty much everyone that he is both a talented football player and magician. And this offseason he's been making himself a household name.

"I am pulling for him," Eagles head coach Doug Pederson said with a jovial smile Wednesday.

The Philadelphia long snapper has been advancing week after week on NBC's "America's Got Talent." And while some coaches might oppose this extracurricular activity, Pederson is loving every minute of it.

"He represents us, the organization and this city on that show like a professional," Pederson said. "His talent is something I think, when football is said and done for him, I think he has a career in Las Vegas or Atlantic City. I am excited for where he could go."

The next place Dorenbos is supposed to go is Eagles training camp, which welcomes veterans Thursday morning. Pederson says the 13-year pro and two-time Pro Bowler will report with everyone else. But what if he has to miss time due to his magic aspirations?

"We have to see," Pederson said. "We went through his show and obviously he will be back [Thursday] for the conditioning test. We will see where it ends up over the next couple days."

METRO GOLF

Rancocas GC continues to impress

It's rare to find a golf course in the Philly area that combines a great layout, great conditions, great location and a good price.

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Wally Tittelmayer, the PGA pro at Rancocas and his crew recently sent their superintendent to Cornell University to check out the Robert Trent Jones society and what they learned was shocking.

"We found out the greens have drains in them that no one knew about," Tittelmayer said of the course, first built in 1966. "We have been slowly finding the drains and replacing them. We are re-sodding the collars and fixing the areas. It's going to help the health of the turf."

Rancocas Golf Course EVAN MACY

As the course returns to the conditions of its former glory, the current inclination is still challenging and a fun ride, with 96 bunkers challenging approach shots and doglegs everywhere challenging golfers off the tee.

"For a first-timer, definitely you can see by the layout the doglegs and everything," the pro said. "When he sat down and laid out this golf course he wanted you to sit and think."

Local knowledge tip: "You need accuracy off the tee, and a driver is not always needed here. It's a position golf course you have to keep it in the right spots."

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The course is tucked into the woods in Willingboro, New Jersey, and even your short game gets a test on the long, thin sloping greens.

"They are small very undulating greens," Tittelmayer said. "That's the defense of the old golf course. When the speeds aren't rolling the undulation is the defense. These greens become really treacherous when the speeds pick up." EVAN MACY

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John Pleasant Room# 0331, Charlene Roane Room# 2307, Andrea Derr Room# 0737, Jakela Parker Room# 0224, Daniel Cathcart Room# 1304, Jermaine Williams Room# 2241, Angelica Dockery Lynard Room# 2243, Felix Vega Room# 2407, Brian Sampson Room# 0129, Kathleen Gendrachi Room# 2005, Raymond Larue Room# 0220, Gregory Fackler Room# 0334, Dennis Matthews Room# 0757, Mary Trimber Room# 0307, Darice Walker Room# 0330

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PGA Championship preview: Is timing right for Mickelson?

Dustin Johnson is once again the favorite as the major kicks off in New Jersey this weekend.

EVAN MACY
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Phil Mickelson is back at the center of the golf world after nearly becoming the second oldest British Open champion two weeks ago at Royal Troon.

He was, of course, bested by Henrik Stenson despite shooting a masterful final round 65 (a bogey free round) and robbed of his sixth major title and accumulating his 11th second-place finish.

In 2005 he won the PGA Championship at Baltusrol, the site of the 2016 event. After a fantastic showing across the pond and back at a course he has shown he can contend with, the timing may be perfect for Mickelson. At 46-years-old, as he told Golf.com, he still believes he has a few majors left in him.

"I don't believe that there is a small window," he said. "I think there's a really big window of opportunity to add to my resumé, to continue to compete in big events, for the simple reason that the feel and sensitivity of hitting shots, the ability to play golf courses a certain way, to visualize, to make birdies, to pull shots off, that has not diminished."

"I think there's a really big window of opportunity to add to my resumé."

Phil Mickelson to Golf.com

Mickelson is still not the favorite in North Jersey at the fourth major of the year, which kicks off Thursday. That designation of course belongs to Dustin Johnson, whose 4-under-par score at Oakmont last month was enough to secure the U.S. Open. The same 4-under score that Mickelson won with in 2005.

Other favorites in the event include Sergio Garcia, who has yet to win a major title, Jason Day and Rory McIlroy.

Many casual golf fans will notice that the event is taking place a bit early this year, and that is due to the inclusion of golf in the Olympics — which takes place during the PGA Championship's usual spot on the golf calendar.

Coverage will be on TNT and CBS.

Phil Mickelson watches his tee shot on the 12th hole during first round play in the 87th PGA Championship at Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, New Jersey. GETTY IMAGES

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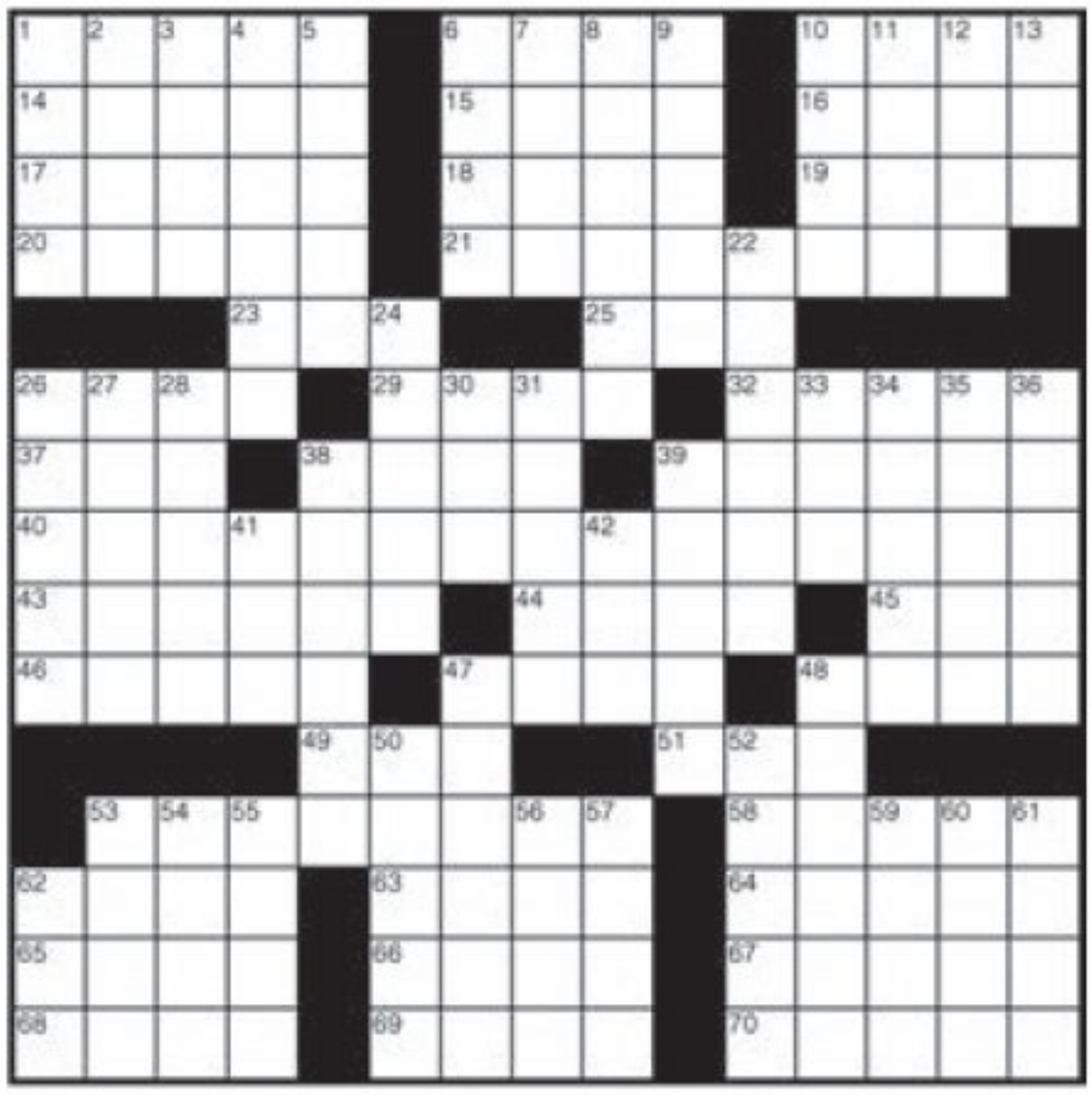

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10 Hoop's place
14 Fill with
15 Old Dodge model
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17 Shinbone
18 Resinous substances
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20 Laurel and Getz
21 Exporters
23 Depot info
25 Mao — -tung
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29 Bounder
32 Physicist Nikola —
37 Tribute in verse
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49 Ugh!
51 — degree
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58 Specks
62 Makes candles
63 — — foot pole
64 Hike
65 Eurasian mountains
66 First name in spying
67 Inner self, to Jung
68 Lunar phenomenon
69 Attention getter
70 Chute material

Down

1 Peach centers
2 Radiate
3 "Fernando" group
4 Totaled
5 Baker's need
6 Encyc. sections
7 Far East nanny
8 Stir up
9 Mispronounces
10 Be defeated
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12 Slant
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27 Light incense to
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